(*c*) Does not the Regulation, as it stands, require that the whole consignment should be confiscated and the party charged before a Magistrate?

(*d*) What was the total value of the consignment and was not this amount lost to Government by the order of release?

(*e*) Is it a fact that, on making enquiries at Alleppey, it has been brought to light that oil has been systematically smuggled by a certain firm, during the last two years, by which Government have suffered very great loss?

(*f*) If the above is true, what action have the Government taken on these matters?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to the answer to question No. 6.

*State Life Insurance.*

8. MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Will the Government be pleased to consider the desirability of making the State Life Insurance compulsory for Government employees?

MR. R. NILAKANDA PILLAI (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): The State Life Insurance Scheme was first introduced in the year 1073. It was optional in the case of all Government servants who entered the State service prior to the 1st Makaram, 1073, and compulsory in the case of all Government servants who entered the pensionable service in the State after that date, provided that the age of the officer did not exceed 45 years or his monthly salary was not below Rs. 10. As several representations were received through the heads of departments stating that compulsory insurance worked real hardship on low-paid servants, Government had to revise their order in 1084 and make the scheme optional. The G. O. declaring insurance optional is published in the Government *Almanac and Directory* as a preface to the rules. Government do not therefore propose to make it compulsory again.

*Arayalam Payment of Kist.*

9. MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the months of Tulam and Vrischikam fixed for the *arayalam* payment of kist are unsuited to the tax-payers, and particularly to those of the Onattukara region?

(*b*) Are the Government aware that the amounts payable during these months are mostly realised only in Makaram?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to fix Dhanu and Makaram for the above purpose?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) to (*c*) On receipt of the same interpellation from the member prior to the session of the Council in Karkadakam, 1098, the question of

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. R. Krishna Pillai.]

changing the kist months as suggested was referred to the several Peishkars for their views. Their replies have not come in yet. The matter will be considered and disposed of on receipt of their reports.

*Irrigational Facilities and Sastankottah Fresh Water Lake.*

10. MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*):

(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state at what stage the preliminary investigation ordered by them regarding the feasibility of utilising the water of the Sastankottah fresh water lake for irrigational purposes now stands?

(*b*) Has the Public Works Department sent its report in the matter?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) The preliminary investigation has been completed.

(*b*) A preliminary report has been received from the Chief Engineer from which it is seen that the scheme is not promising. Before making, however, a final report to Government, Mr. Natesa Aiyar considers it desirable to have the levels verified carefully and this has been arranged for.

*Means of Communication in the Karunagapalli Taluk.*

11. MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*):

(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state what they have done to improve the means of communication in the Karunagapalli taluk in pursuance of their reply to the representations made on the subject by the member representing that taluk at the eighteenth session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly?

(*b*) Will they be pleased to see that the following public ways are also converted into cartable roads at an early date:

(i) from Ayiramtengu to Tamarakkulam *via* Ochira;

(ii) from Vallikkavu to Todiyil;

(iii) from Krishnapuram due west to the shore of the Kayankulam backwater; and

(iv) from Kannetti due west to the backwater?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Government are doing everything possible to improve the means of communication in the Karunagapalli taluk. The main road system in the taluk has to be completed first and Government are at it now. A provision of Rs. 19,000 has been made in the P. W. D. budget for 1099 on account of communications in the taluk (*vide* items 192 to 196). The improvement of the main road from Karunagapalli to Kamankulangara has been practically completed and that of the road

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly